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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	Confirmation No.: 5249
Katsumi HIREZAKI *et al.*	Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/684,060	Technology Center/Art Unit: 2661
Filed: October 10, 2003	**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**
For: CONTROL METHOD OF STORAGE SYSTEM, STORAGE SYSTEM, AND STORAGE APPARATUS	
Customer No.: 20350	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.